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# NEWS RELEASE

## **DIGITAL AUDIO RECORDINGS ARE NOW AVAILABLE ONLINE**

The U.S. Bankruptcy Court for the District of Wyoming is pleased to announce digital audio recordings of courtroom proceedings are now publicly available online. The court has integrated our digital recording and Case Management/Electronic Case Files (CM/ECF) systems to make audio files available the same way written files have long been available on the Internet.

To date, two district courts and six bankruptcy courts have “gone live” in offering digital audio files via PACER, the Judiciary’s Public Access to Court Electronic Records service. Another 22 courts have begun implementation or are planning to offer access through PACER to digital audio files. More than one million subscribers have used PACER to access written docket and case information from federal appellate, district, and bankruptcy courts.

The Judicial conference set a fee of \$2.40 to download any digital audio file, matching the existing maximum fee for accessing any written document through PACER. Previously, in courts with digital audio recording, computer disks of courtroom proceedings have been available for a \$26 fee. If you need to transcribe a courtroom session, the original audio disk with four channel separation will still be available for purchase from our office for the prescribed \$26 fee.

Digital audio recording has been an authorized method of making an official record of court proceedings since its approval by the Judicial Conference in 1999. The conference action in March 2010 followed a two-year pilot project that indicated significant public interest in accessing the audio files. District, Bankruptcy and Magistrate judges who use digital audio recording as the official means of taking the record can now provide, at their discretion, access to digital audio recordings of court proceedings via PACER.

Online audio files for hearings conducted after January 1, 2011 will typically be available through PACER the next business day (<https://ecf.wyb.uscourts.gov>).